In the present employment and unemployment scenario the activities being performed by the employment exchanges are of great importance.

Amendments in Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

†3272. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of the number of efforts of Government, the number of child labourer in the country is increasing;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider bringing some effective amendment in the existing Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) As per Census 2001 figures, the number of working children in the country has registered a slight increase over that of 1991 in absolute terms. However, the percentage of working children to that of the total child population has come down.

(b) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, there are sufficient legal provisions available prohibiting employment of children in hazardous occupations and processses. Adequate quantum of punishment in terms of fine and imprisonment to the offending employers already exists under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act. Effective implementation of the existing law with simultaneous rehabilitative measures alongwith the convergence with the other developmental programmes is the corner stone of the strategy of the Government in the elimination of child labour.

(c) Does not arise.

Safety at work place

3273. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of fatal accidents due to poor safety and health facilities at work place in India according to the latest report of International Labour Organisation;